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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/782,988 | 02/13/2001 | Hitoshi Sekine | 49986-0505 | 1948 |

29989 7590 04/07/2006

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EXAMINER

EHICHIOYA, FRED I

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2162

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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| EXAMINER |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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Commissioner for Patents

The Reply Brief dated March 23, 2006 submitted in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed on January 18, 2006 is hereby acknowledged. This case is already being presented before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

**SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER**